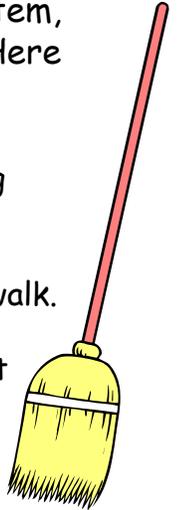


# Help Reduce Harmful Urban Runoff



Urban runoff is excess water from watering lawns, gardens, and crops, and/or car washing and other human activities, that runs down into the curb and gutter of the street. This excess water picks up trash and debris, leaking automobile and machine oils, herbicides, pesticides, and sediment, ultimately discharging these pollutants through the remaining stormdrain system, directly into the ocean. It is a fact: Urban runoff causes ocean pollution. Here are ways you can help:

- 1 Properly dispose of animal wastes. Use a 'doggie bag' when walking your dog and dispose of the waste into a trashcan. You can also do this for your cat.
- 2 Use a broom, instead of a water hose, to clean off your driveway and sidewalk.
- 3 Minimize runoff from your irrigation system, by adjusting sprinklers to not spray into the street or on the sidewalk. Fix broken sprinklers when you find them. Adjust watering times according to the season.
- 4 Use the County's Household Hazardous Waste Collection Center to dispose of household chemicals, paints, electronics and batteries. For locations and more information please contact (714) 834-6752 or visit [www.oilandfills.com](http://www.oilandfills.com). Never pour chemicals, used oil or paints down your toilet or sink, on the ground or into the street.
- 5 Throw away your trash into a trashcan. Throwing trash out of the window of your car or while you are walking down the street causes ocean pollution. All of the littered trash ends up in a storm drain and then the ocean. Properly dispose of cigarette butts; they are the most common trash item found on our beaches.
- 6 Wash your car on your lawn or take it to a car wash to prevent runoff. Car wash water contains oils, greases, heavy metals, phosphates and nutrients.
- 7 Use fertilizers, herbicides and pesticides sparingly. Do not apply them 48 hours prior to a forecasted rain event and prevent irrigation water from washing the products down the street and into the storm drain.
- 8 Prevent leaves, grass clippings, trash and dirt from getting into the street and gutter.



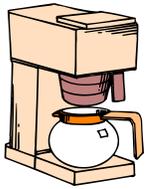
For more information on the City of Garden Grove Stormwater Program call (714) 741-5375 or visit [www.garden-grove.org/storm](http://www.garden-grove.org/storm)



# 12 Steps to Stop Being a Sewer Blocker



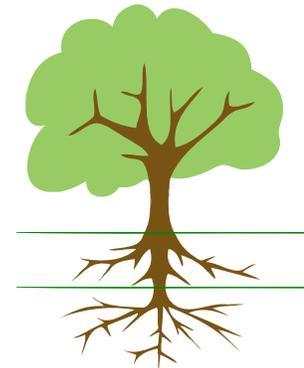
All of the drains inside of your house (sinks, tubs and toilets) are connected to the sanitary sewer system. The sewage material in the sanitary sewer system drains to a sewage treatment plant where it is treated before being discharged to the ocean. Sewage spills can be caused by placing items into the sanitary sewer system that don't belong, such as diapers, hairclips and small toys. Sanitary sewage overflows out of manhole covers that are usually located somewhere in the middle of the street, and sewer cleanouts which are usually located near a building. If not detected and controlled will ultimately flow into stormdrains that directly discharge into the ocean. Here are things you can do to stop being a sewer blocker:



- 1 Dispose of all waste cooking grease into the trash. Drain the grease into a container until it's full and ready for disposal.
- 2 Throw coffee grounds into a compost pile or the trash.
- 3 Dispose of eggshells into a compost pile or the trash.
- 4 Cat litter should not be flushed down the toilet; it should be thrown into the trash.
- 5 Dispose of waste baby diapers and baby wipes into the trash.
- 6 Dispose of feminine products into the trash.
- 7 Use a screen in your sink drains to prevent materials from being washed down and causing clogs.



- 8 Use a fine drain screen in your shower to catch hair and dispose of it into the trash.
- 9 See if there is a potential for root intrusion into your sewer line or service lateral (the pipe from your house into the main drain in the middle of the street).



- 10 The toilet is not a trashcan. Please dispose of hair, cotton balls, Q-tips and Kleenex in the trash.
- 11 Use the garbage disposal sparingly. When operating a garbage disposal, use plenty of water to flush everything down the drain.
- 12 Roots and grease are the main cause of blockages in the sewer system. Periodically have your service lateral cleaned out.